

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

K1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Units in Karvinna, Novy Zdar and Presov

25X1X

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

22 August 1950

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES

2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

1 -

25X1X

REMARKS

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150

25X1X

SOURCE

1. The Combined Mining Detachment 12/3 commanded by Staff Capt Hrkala, (fnu), was quartered in a cantonment, 1 km west of Karvinna. Like 13 similar detachments in the Moravska Ostrava (P 50/0 59) area it was subordinate to a headquarters in Orlova (Q 50/0 69) in mid-June 1950. (1) These units had no

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Detachment 12/3 was organized into five labor details of different strength. It totaled five officers, four or five active NCOs and 800 EM. All detachments subordinate to the headquarters had an estimated strength of 15,000. (2) Most of the soldiers had served with the German or Hungarian Armed Forces and were considered politically unreliable. Among them were former members of all branches of service including the air force. (3) Members of detachment worked in coal mines, most of them underground. Fatal accidents averaged 8 to 10 EM monthly.

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2. The heavy machine gun company and the submachine gun company of the Unit [REDACTED] were located in Novy Zdar (E 51/P 18). The heavy machine gun company was equipped with new type 47 Czech heavy machine guns. Other elements of the Unit [REDACTED] were located in As (E 51/P 18). (4)

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3. In May 1949 the 20th Inf Regt "Dukelsky" in Presov had [REDACTED] 25X1C

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(5) Col Shrbeny, (fnu), was CO of the regiment and his adjutant was Capt Svoboda, (fnu); Capt Belko, (fnu), was the DOZ officer. Lt Ryhlik, (fnu), was assigned to the regimental headquarters, Maj Ryska, (fnu), commanded a battalion and Lt Col Dr. Bernasovsky, (fnu), was chief of a medical course. (6). An underground ammunition dump, 1 km south-east of the Haniska (R 49/E 36) railroad station was guarded by soldiers of the regiment. The dump was about 1,000 meters square and was protected by a barbed-wire fence 3 meters high and 5 meters deep, equipped with alarm bells. (7)

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Comments.

- (1) A similar unit was previously reported from the vicinity of Karvinna. See

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Date: 1-0 JUL 1978	By: 026

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- 25X1A (2) [REDACTED] the total strength of the soldiers working in
the coal mines at 20,000. See [REDACTED]
- 25X1A (3) Units of a similar composition are also maintained by the Polish Army. They
also work in coal mines.
- 25X1C (4) The Unit [REDACTED] in As is the 46th Inf Bn. A new type 47 Czech subma-
chine gun is not known. It is believed that [REDACTED] mistook it for 25X1A
Czech type 37 heavy machine gun.
- (5) The 20th Inf Regt in Presov formerly had the [REDACTED]
- 25X1C (6) According to more recent information some of the officers were reassigned.
See [REDACTED]
- 25X1A (7) This is the first information on a large ammunition dump near Haniska south
of Presov. The size indicates a dump of more than local importance.

1 Annex: Standard Manpower Questionnaire.

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